

Rep. Maria Antonia Berrios

Filed: 5/17/2011

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09700SB0395ham003

LRB097 04207 HLH 55787 a

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 395 on page 1, line

AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 395

3 5, by replacing "Section 10-380" with "Sections 9-265 and

4 10-380"; and

5 on page 1, immediately below line 5, by inserting the

6 following:

7 "(35 ILCS 200/9-265)

Sec. 9-265. Omitted property; interest; change in exempt use or ownership. If any property is omitted in the assessment of any year or years, not to exceed the current assessment year and 3 prior years, so that the taxes, for which the property was liable, have not been paid, or if by reason of defective description or assessment, taxes on any property for any year or years have not been paid, or if any taxes are refunded under subsection (b) of Section 14-5 because the taxes were assessed in the wrong person's name, the property, when discovered,

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shall be listed and assessed by the board of review or, in counties with 3,000,000 or more inhabitants, by the county assessor either on his or her own initiative or when so directed by the board of appeals or board of review. The board of review in counties with less than 3,000,000 inhabitants or the county assessor in counties with 3,000,000 or more inhabitants may develop reasonable procedures for contesting the listing of omitted property under this Division. For purposes of this Section, "defective description assessment" includes a description or assessment which omits all the improvements thereon as a result of which part of the taxes on the total value of the property as improved remain unpaid. In the case of property subject to assessment by the Department, the property shall be listed and assessed by the Department. All such property shall be placed on the assessment and tax books. The arrearages of taxes which might have been assessed, with 10% interest thereon for each year or portion thereof from 2 years after the time the first correct tax bill ought to have been received, shall be charged against the property by the county clerk.

When property or acreage omitted by either incorrect survey or other ministerial assessor error is discovered and the owner has paid its tax bills as received for the year or years of omission of the parcel, then the interest authorized by this Section shall not be chargeable to the owner. However, nothing in this Section shall prevent the collection of the principal

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amount of back taxes due and owing.

If any property listed as exempt by the chief county assessment officer has a change in use, a change in leasehold estate, or a change in titleholder of record by purchase, grant, taking or transfer, it shall be the obligation of the transferee to notify the chief county assessment officer in writing within 90 days of the change. If mailed, the notice shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, and shall include the name and address of the taxpayer, the legal description of the property, and the property index number of the property when an index number exists. If notice is provided in person, it shall be provided on a form prescribed by the chief county assessment officer, and the chief county assessment officer shall provide a date stamped copy of the notice. Except as provided in item (6) of subsection (a) of Section 9-260, item (6) of Section 16-135, and item (6) of Section 16-140 of this Code, if the failure to give the notification results in the assessing official continuing to list the property as exempt in subsequent years, the property shall be considered omitted property for purposes of this Code. If, upon determination by the chief county assessment officer, any property that was not eligible to receive a homestead exemption under Article 15 of this Code was erroneously granted a homestead exemption in any year or years not to exceed the current assessment year and 10 prior years

for assessment years 2011 and 2012, and the current assessment

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year and 4 prior years for assessment year 2013 and thereafter, then the chief county assessment officer shall cause to be served upon the property owner a notice of intent to record a tax lien against the property with respect to which the erroneous homestead exemption was granted. The notice shall identify the property against which the lien is being sought and include a form that the property owner may return to the chief county assessment officer to request a hearing. The property owner may request a hearing by returning the form to the chief county assessment officer within 30 days after service. The hearing shall be held within 90 days after the property owner is served. The chief county assessment officer shall promulgate rules of service and procedures for the hearing. The chief county assessment officer must generally follow rules of evidence and practices that prevail in the circuit court of the county, but, because of the nature of these proceedings, the chief county assessment officer shall not be bound by those rules in all particulars. The chief county assessment officer shall appoint a hearing officer to oversee the hearing. The property owner shall be allowed to present evidence to the hearing officer at the hearing. After taking into consideration all relevant testimony and evidence, the hearing officer shall make an administrative decision on whether the property owner was erroneously granted a homestead exemption for the assessment year or years in question. The property owner may appeal the hearing officer's ruling to the

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1 circuit court of the county where the property is located under 2 the Administrative Review Law.

A lien imposed under this Section may not be filed with the county clerk sooner than 45 days after the notice was delivered to the property owner if the property owner does not request a hearing, or, until the conclusion of the hearing and all appeals if the property owner does request a hearing. In addition, when the lien is filed, the arrearages of taxes that might have been assessed, plus a penalty of 25% of the total amount of unpaid taxes for each year and 18% interest per annum, shall be charged against the property by the county clerk. If the erroneous homestead exemption was granted as a result of a clerical error or omission on the part of the chief county assessment officer, and if the owner has paid its tax bills as received for the year or years in which the error occurred, then the interest and penalties authorized by this Section shall not be chargeable to the owner. However, nothing in this Section shall prevent the collection of the principal amount of unpaid taxes due and owing.

The unpaid taxes shall be paid to the appropriate taxing districts. The interest shall be paid to the county where the property is located. The penalty shall be paid to the chief county assessment officer's office for the administration of the provisions of this amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly.

For purposes of this Section, "homestead exemption" means

- an exemption under Section 15-165 (disabled veterans), 15-167 1
- (returning veterans), 15-169 (disabled veterans standard 2
- homestead), 15-170 (senior citizens), 15-172 (senior citizens 3
- assessment freeze), 15-175 (general homestead), 15-176 4
- 5 (alternative general homestead), or 15-177 (long-time
- 6 occupant).
- (Source: P.A. 96-1553, eff. 3-10-11.)". 7